

Message Text

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51

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 EUR-12 ACDA-05 SAJ-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10 BIB-01 /089 W

----- 029839

R 1506050Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2890

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY SANAA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOGADISCIO 0712

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, UR, SO

SUBJECT: SOVIET BASE ISSUE

REF: A) MOGADISCIO 709 B) MOGADISCIO 693

1. ON MAY 14 SOMALI MEDIA ATTACKED FOR THIRD STRAIGHT DAY
REPORTS THAT SOMALIA HAD GIVEN BASE RIGHTS TO FOREIGN POWER.

2. IN EDITORIAL IN OFFICIAL DAILY OKTOBER STAR MAY 14, IMPERIALISTS
ARE CHASTIZED FOR SPREADING FALSE RUMORS ABOUT FOREIGN BASES IN
SOMALIA IN ORDER CREATE DISCORD AMONG ARAB PEOPLES. EDITORIAL
QUOTES SIAD'S ASSERTION THAT QTE IMPERIALISTS HAVE PERSUADED
CERTAIN ARAB COUNTRIES THAT SOMALIA HAD GIVEN MILITARY BASES ON ITS
SOIL TO A FOREIGN POWER UNQTE AND REPEATS HIS DENIAL OF THOSE
RUMORS.

3. EDITORIAL CLOSES BY PREDICTING THAT AS RESULT OF ARAB LEAGUE
SUMMIT IN MOGADISCIO, REVOLUTIONARY POLICIES OF SOMALIA WOULD
BECOME
IMMEDIATELY CLEAR TO ARAB CHIEFS OF STATE. EDITORIAL SAYS THAT ARAB
SUMMIT WILL HELP DEFEAT IMPERIALIST PROPAGANDA AND WIN VICTORY WHICH
WILL STRENGTHEN ARAB UNITY.

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4. COMMENT: WE ARE INTRIGUED BY PUBLICITY GIVEN SOVIET BASE ISSUE OVER PAST SEVERAL DAYS. WE BELIEVE THAT MEDIA CAMPAIGN IS INTENDED TO SHOW SIAD'S PERSONAL SUCCESS IN WINNING ARAB SUMMIT TO MOGADISCIO DESPITE IMPERIALIST HOSTILITY (FYI WE UNDERSTAND THAT PRIOR SIAD'S DEPARTURE FOR SAUDI ARABIA, IRAQ, ETC., SOME GSDR OFFICIALS HAD SPREAD WORD THAT US WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR OPPOSITION OF MORE REACTIONARY ARAB GOVTS. TO MOGADISCIO SUMMIT. END FYI). SIAD MAY WELL INTEND TO USE MOGADISCIO SUMMIT TO FURTHER REFUTE IN SOME WAY ALLEGATIONS OF SOVIET BASES OR SOVIET INFLUENCE. AT PRESENT, HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE GSDR -- WHICH TENDS TO THINK ABOUT ONE PROBLEM AT A TIME -- IS SIMPLY CROWING ABOUT ITS SUMMIT VICTORY.
HAMRICK

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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